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EXAMINER	
MURPHY, RHONDA L	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2616	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/851,681

Applicant(s)

BAKER ET AL.

Examiner

Rhonda Murphy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19,21-34,36-38 and 75 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19,21-34,36-38 and 75 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 August 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 6/15/07.

Accordingly, claims 20, 35 and 39-74 have been previously canceled, and claims 1-19, 21-34, 36-38 and 75 are currently pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 – 4, 23 – 25, 34, and 36 – 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lager et al. (US 6,636,502) in view of Sofer et al. (US 2006/0030304 A1).

Regarding claim 1, Lager teaches a system comprising: a plurality of mobile stations (Fig. 8, **GPRS-MS**); at least one packet data network (Fig. 8, **PDN1** and **PDN2**); and a wireless access integrated node (WAIN) (**PLMN-SW**) coupled to the plurality of mobile stations via a radio interface (represented by “**Sending NIP**” signal) and coupled to the

at least one packet data network via a network interface (represented by P1 and P2 lines; col. 11, lines 51-59) to provide an intermediating wired and/or wireless dedicated connection between the plurality of mobile stations and the at least one packet data network, wherein the dedicated connection (Fig. 8; col. 11, lines 40-43; dedicated connections P1, P2) implements a simplified protocol structure eliminating unnecessary intermediate protocol layers (col. 3, lines 58-67; col. 4, lines 1-2; transparent transfer method lessens the requirement for the GPRS PLMN to interpret internal data protocols), wherein the WAIN is further to establish General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) communication between the plurality of mobile stations via a single interface, the single interface including the radio interface (represented by "**Sending NIP**" radio signal), the WAIN having a control module (Fig. 8, **AC**) to control GPRS signaling and data transfer between the plurality of mobile stations (col. 12, lines 57-65).

Although Lager teaches a dedicated connection, Lager fails to explicitly disclose a dedicated broadband connection.

However, Examiner takes official notice that it is known in the art for wireless networks to consist of broadband connections.

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to include a dedicated broadband connection, in order to provide a high speed, dedicated path for the subscribers to efficiently transmit data within the network.

Lager fails to explicitly disclose wherein the WAIN is in communication with a plurality of WAINs within a community service area such that when a mobile station of the plurality of mobile stations roams outside an area covered by the WAIN, another

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WAIN of the plurality of WAIN is selected as a home WAIN to serve the mobile station, wherein the selection of the home WAIN is based on an interrogation between the plurality of WAINs.

However, Sofer teaches the WAIN in communication with a plurality of WAINs (Fig. 1; VPLMN and HPLMN) within a community service area such that when a mobile station of the plurality of mobile stations roams outside an area covered by the WAIN, another WAIN of the plurality of WAIN is selected as a home WAIN to serve the mobile station, wherein the selection of the home WAIN is based on an interrogation between the plurality of WAINs (Fig. 1; page 1, paragraph 16 and 18-19)

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Lager's system by including a plurality of WAINs, as described by Sofer, so as to allow a mobile station to roam between networks.

Regarding claim 2, Lager further teaches a system wherein the packet data network is an Internet (the enclosed circle of Fig. 8).

Regarding claim 3, Lager further teaches a system wherein the packet data network is an intranet (Fig. 8, **PDN2**).

Regarding claim 4, Lager further teaches a system wherein the intranet is coupled to a content server (Fig. 8, **Radius server**).

Regarding claim 23, Lager teaches a wireless data collector interconnected with the WAIN (Fig. 8, **GPRS-MS**; col. 15, lines 10-15).

Regarding claim 24, Lager teaches a system wherein the radio interface is a GPRS radio interface (GPRS-MS transmits over radio interface represented by "Sending NIP" signal in Fig. 8).

Regarding claim 25, Lager teaches a system wherein the network interface is an IP interface (Fig. 8, **IP-TUN** line connected to **ISP2**).

Regarding claim 34, Lager teaches a WAIN further supporting mobile stations roaming between a local WAIN environment and a public mobile network (Fig. 4, col. 5, lines 56-67).

Regarding claim 36, Lager teaches a WAIN further providing wireless data services in a community service area located within cells of a public network (Fig. 8, public networks **ISP's**) when the WAIN is clustered with other WAIN systems (Fig. 3, PLMN A and PLMN B).

Regarding claim 37, Lager teaches a WAIN further supporting mobile stations roaming between different WAIN systems (col. 5, lines 56-67).

Regarding claim 38, Lager teaches a WAIN further configuring the WAIN as a network node (Fig. 8, col. 11, lines 6-16).

3. Claims 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lager and Sofer as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Swartz (US 2003/0053444).

Regarding claim 21, Lager teaches a WAIN and commands from the mobile station to the appliance control system.

Lager fails to teach voice recognition capability for audibly replaying service request commands.

However, Swartz teaches voice recognition capability for audibly replaying service request commands (page 7, paragraph 72).

In view of this, having the system of Lager and then given the teachings of Swartz, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify the system of Lager, by including voice recognition means, in order to allow the user to verbally request information from the appliance control system.

Regarding claim 22, Lager teaches a WAIN replaying an appliance status report delivered from the appliance control system to the mobile station.

Lager fails to teach text-to-speech capability to audibly replay the report.

However, Swartz teaches text-to-speech capability for audibly relaying information (page 7, paragraph 74).

In view of this, having the system of Lager and then given the teachings of Swartz, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify the system of Lager, by including text-to-speech means, in order to allow the user to receive audio data which was originally in text form.

4. Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lager and Sofer as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of McNiff et al (US 2003/0076808).

Regarding claim 26, Lager teaches a system comprising a user to obtain a temporary subscription to the WAIN through a dynamic registration (col. 12, lines 66-67, col. 13, lines 1-12).

Lager fails to teach a temporary subscription and cancellation process in which the user's mobile station's secret subscription identity is linked with an equipment identity of the mobile station of the user.

However, McNiff teaches a temporary subscription and cancellation process (page 3, paragraph 36) in which the user's mobile station's secret subscription identity (page 3, paragraph 29) is linked with an equipment identity of the mobile station user (page 3, paragraph 28).

In view of this, having the system of Lager and then given the teachings of McNiff, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify the system of Lager, by including a temporary subscription and cancellation process, in order to restrict access to registered users and maintain a secure network.

5. Claims 5-10, 12-14, 16, 27-33 and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lager and Sofer as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Pines et al. (US 2003/0007625).

Regarding claim 75, Lager teaches the WAIN comprising: a plurality of mobile data transmission modules and signaling modules for sending, processing, and receiving data packets (Fig. 8, modules **SCM**, **SEL**, **MSC/VLR**, **NIP-RC** and transceiver (not

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shown) connected to the antenna of PLMN-SW, for communication with the GPRS-MS); a plurality of interfaces and ports for sending messages to and receiving messages from at least one packet data network, systems, and mobile stations interconnected with the WAIN (col. 11, lines 17-24, 51-59); a database containing subscription and operating information for the plurality of mobile stations attached to the WAIN (Fig. 8, **HLR/SP**; col. 12, lines 66-67, col. 13, lines 1-3; col. 15, lines 32-36); and a main controller to coordinate and control one or more of the mobile data transmission modules, signaling modules, interfaces, and database (Fig. 8, **AC**; col. 12, lines 57-65).

Lager fails to explicitly teach a database containing charging information for the plurality of mobile stations attached to the WAIN.

However, Examiner takes official notice that it is known in the art for charging information to be stored in a database for billing subscribers. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to include a database containing charging data in order to record subscriber use/access to the network.

Lager also fails to explicitly teach a main controller for collecting charging data.

However, Pines teaches a main controller (Fig. 1, **service provider 26**) for collect charging data (page 16, paragraph 0200).

In view of this, having the system of Lager and then given the teachings of Pines, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify the system of Lager, by collecting charging data within the main controller, in order to maintain subscriber records within a centralized location.

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Regarding claim 5, Lager further teaches a system wherein the mobile data transmission module is a PDCP module (col. 8, lines 6-8).

Regarding claim 6, Lager further teaches a system wherein the mobile data transmission module is a RLC/MAC module (col. 5, lines 28-39; note col.10, lines 66-67, col. 11, lines 1-5).

Regarding claim 7, Lager further teaches a system wherein the mobile data transmission module is a Transceiver (TRX) module (Fig. 8, transceiver (not shown) connected to the antenna of PLMN-SW, for communication with the GPRS-MS).

Regarding claim 8, Lager further teaches a system wherein the signaling module is Radio Resource Management (module (not shown) located within SGSN of Fig. 8, col. 8, lines 6-30).

Regarding claim 9, Lager further teaches a system wherein the signaling module is GPRS Mobility Management (SCM of Fig. 8, col. 14, lines 64-67, col. 15, lines 1-10; wherein the SCM provides security by permitting or denying access to the packet data network).

Regarding claim 10, Lager further teaches a system wherein the signaling module is Session Management (NIP-RC of Fig. 8, col. 12, lines 49-54).

Regarding claim 12, Lager further teaches a local information system interface (Fig. 8, IP-TUN line).

Regarding claim 13, Lager further teaches an appliance control interface (Fig. 8, P1 line).

Regarding claim 14, Lager further teaches a system wherein the interface is an intranet gateway (an intranet gateway interface is inherent in the system depicted in Fig. 8, since an interface is required for the exchange of data between the access node of **PLMN-SW** and the intranet of **PDN2**).

Regarding claim 16, Lager teaches a local information system interconnected with the WAIN (Fig. 8, **ISP2**).

Regarding claim 27, Lager teaches mobile transmission modules including means for modulating data packets (it is well known in the art that data packets are modulated for transmission over a communication network).

Regarding claim 28, Lager teaches mobile transmission modules including means for compressing data packets (col. 3, lines 64-67, col. 4, lines 1-2).

Regarding claim 29, Lager teaches mobile transmission modules including means for encrypting data packets (col. 3, lines 41-45).

Regarding claim 30, Lager teaches mobile transmission modules including means for multiplexing data packets (multiplexing data packets are known in the art for transmitting signals over a single channel; TDMA is supported by GPRS, thus multiplexing is inherent).

Regarding claim 31, Lager teaches mobile transmission modules including means for correcting errors in data packets (error correction in data packets are well known in the art for proper data reception).

Regarding claim 32, Lager teaches mobile transmission modules including means for segmenting data packets (it is known in the art that data packets are segmented -

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encapsulated and decapsulated for transmission among different network protocols; col. 5, lines 32-39).

Regarding claim 33, Lager teaches mobile transmission modules including means for controlling the sequence of data packets (controlling the sequence of data packets is well known in the art, and occurs within the access control unit, **AC**, in Fig. 8).

6. Claims 11 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lager, Sofer and Pines et al. (US 2003/0007625) as applied to claim 75 above, and further in view of Gaffney (US 6,333,919).

Regarding claim 11, Lager teaches a system with interfaces.

Lager fails to explicitly teach a voice interface.

However, Gaffney teaches a system with voice interfaces (Fig. 1, **interface 110** and **120**).

In view of this, having the system of Lager and Pines and then given the teachings of Gaffney, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify the system of Lager, by including a voice interface, in order to provide a link for the exchange of voice data between devices.

Regarding claim 15, Lager teaches a system having ports.

Lager fails to explicitly teach an RJ11 port for a fixed wired telephone connection.

However, Gaffney teaches a fixed wire telephone connection (Fig. 1, desk phone **450**; col. 4, lines 55-56) and it is known in the art that desk phones commonly use an RJ11 jack.

In view of this, having the system of Lager and Pines and then given the teachings of Gaffney, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify the system of Lager, by including an RJ11 port, in order to provide a connection for telephone use.

7. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lager, Sofer and Pines as applied to claim 16 above, and further in view of Doviak et al. (US 6,418,324).

Regarding claim 17, Lager teaches a WAIN with a local information system.

Lager fails to teach remotely synchronizing a personal digital assistant with its host program.

However, Doviak teaches remotely synchronizing a personal digital assistant (Fig. 1, **PDA 52**) with its host program (**MDC 54**; col. 9, lines 4-20).

In view of this, having the system of Lager and Pines and then given the teachings of Doviak, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify the system of Lager, by remotely synchronizing a personal digital assistant with it's host, in order to provide a user with a wider coverage area and more efficient service.

8. Claims 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lager, Sofer and Pines as applied to claim 16 above, and further in view of Swartz (US 2003/0053444).

Regarding claim 18, Lager teaches a WAIN and commands from the mobile station to the local information system.

Lager fails to teach voice recognition capability for audibly replaying service request commands.

However, Swartz teaches voice recognition capability for audibly replaying service request commands (page 7, paragraph 72).

In view of this, having the system of Lager and then given the teachings of Swartz, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify the system of Lager and Pines, by including voice recognition capability, in order to allow the user to verbally request information from the local information system.

Regarding claim 19, Lager teaches a WAIN replaying information from the local information system to the mobile station.

Lager fails to teach text-to-speech capability for audibly replaying information.

However, Swartz teaches text-to-speech capability for audibly replaying information (page 7, paragraph 74).

In view of this, having the system of Lager and Pines and then given the teachings of Swartz, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify the system of Lager, by including text-to-speech capability, in order to allow the user to receive audio data which was originally in text form.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rhonda Murphy whose telephone number is (571) 272-3185. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00 - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Rhonda Murphy
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